

MINUTES
APPEAL MEETING
MARION CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS AT CITY HALL
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2019; 6:00 P.M.

APPEAL MEETING:

MAYOR/COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor Ashley Brady

Councilman Joseph Frazier

Mayor Pro Tem Emerson Hunt

Councilman Michael Baker

Councilman Ralph Atkinson

Councilman Ronald Atkinson

STAFF PRESENT:

Alan Ammons, City Administrator

James Brogdon, City Attorney

Ainsley Sanders, City Clerk

Tony Flowers, Chief of Police

Patricia Brown, City Treasurer

Cliff Wilbanks, Recreation Director

Trey Cooper, Fire Chief

1. APPEAL HEARING – BUSINESS LICENSE

Appeal meeting was called to order by Mayor Ashley Brady regarding the City Business License of Mr. Tyrice Legette for Violating City of Marion Business License Ordinance.

2. TYRICE LEGETTE VIOLATION OF THE CITY OF MARION BUSINESS LICENSE ORDINANCE SECTION 15.

Mayor Ashley Brady informed Mr. Tyrice Legette of his unlawful activity going on at his place of business. Mr. Tyrice indicated that the gun shots where not on his premises the second time. Mayor Ashley Brady pointed out that we have to look

out for the Citizens of Marion and if we've got gun violence going on at your facility that is not something that is conducive to the Citizens of Marion. Chief Tony Flowers elaborated on what happened on the premises. Chief stated that Mr. Reed pointed out that he was opening up a motorcycle club something to kind of hang out with family. Chief Flowers expressed that right after they opened up the business none of the three were there, and outside a fight broke out and a young man got shot, and by the grace of God he did not get killed. Chief Flowers stated that he do not know how he did not get killed. Chief informed us that the process of revoking the license was conducted, and they got the license back on August third and there was another incident with a younger crowd and someone was shooting a gun, Chief Tony Flowers said. He also brought out the point that he was at home and he don't really know what happened, and that when he got there it was kind of dispersed out. Chief noted that rather the gun was on the property or not it was brought to their club and the problem is not with the gentleman, it's when they let the teens have the parties. Chief Flowers expressed that the problem is not with the older crowd. Chief Flowers mentioned Rasta Hut right next door to the facility and hew cannot remember having any trouble since they have been open. He also pointed out that as far as this place and the Rasta hut he never ran into a problem or interaction with them because the people at Rasta Hut are either inside or in the back on the deck. Chief Flowers reiterated that the biggest problem is the teen's involved, we get a lot of people walking across the streets, a lot of these teens with guns and the young girls out here trying to impress. He stated that this fellow was popping bullets in the air and not aiming at nobody but the bullets have to come down, and that is the problem that they are having with the teens at that location. Chief Flowers made the statement that one person can't

control all the teen's. ***A motion was made by Councilman Joseph Frazier, seconded by Councilman Michael Baker to revoke Ace's Lounge City Business License and allow the City Attorney to prepare an order in accordance to the fines.*** Mayor Pro Tem Emerson Hunt resolved himself from voting because he thinks his business has been mentioned and he wasn't aware of the trash. Mayor Pro Tem also mentioned that he believe that we all have each other's numbers and not one time has he been reached out to or called about trash. Mayor Pro Tem expressed again that he would like to abstain from the voting. The motion carries.

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING:

MAYOR/COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor Ashley Brady	Councilman Michael Baker
Mayor Pro-Tem Emerson Hunt	Councilman Joseph Frazier
Councilman Ralph Atkinson	Councilwoman Tassie Lewis
Councilman Ronald Atkinson	

STAFF PRESENT:

Alan Ammons, City Administrator	James Brogdon, City Attorney
Ainsley Sanders, City Clerk	Tony Flowers, Chief of Police
Patricia Brown, City Treasurer	
Cliff Wilbanks, Recreation Director	

1. **MEETING CALLED TO ORDER –MAYOR ASHLEY BRADY**

Mayor Ashley Brady called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. and welcomed all guests.

2. **PRAYER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Ashley Brady led the Opening Prayer, and Mr. Alan Ammons led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **WELCOME CITIZENS, GUESTS & PRESS**

Mayor Ashley Brady welcomed citizens, guests, and the press (Hometown TV 8).

4. **APPROVE MINUTES OF August 13, 2019**

A motion was made by Councilman Joseph Frazier, seconded by Councilman Michael Baker, to approve minutes from August 13, 2019. The motion carries unanimously.

5. **AUGUST EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH**

Rusty Cotton of the Public Works Department was named *August Employee of the Month*. Mayor Ashley Brady thanked Rusty Cotton for all he does for the City. Mayor Brady presented Rusty Cotton with a gift.

6. **RESOLUTION COMMITTING THE CITY OF MARION TO PROVIDE ALOCAL MATCH FOR A MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH CAROLINA HOMETOWN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GRANT**

Mayor Brady informed us that this is the same thing we did last year and that is to apply for a grant with the Municipal Association, and the beneficiary will be the HMRA. Mayor mentioned that it is a twenty five thousand dollar grant, we did not receive last year but they told us to reapply again this year. ***A motion was made by Councilman Ralph Atkinson, seconded by Councilman Michael Baker to offer a resolution committing the City of Marion to provide a local match for the Municipal Association Home Town Economic Development Grant in the amount at least up to twenty five hundred dollar grant.***

7. **ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

Storm – Update

Administrator Ammons mentioned that we started way early preparing for the storm, we watched it probably ten days out. Administrator mentioned that we were very fortunate not to experience any more damage than we did in Marion.

Rural Fire Fee – Update

Administrator mentioned that the Rural Fire fee that we talked about last month, the County proposed to increase the dues to the residents and in turn that would be an increase in our funding. Mr. Ammons mentioned that they had the Public Hearing the day of the Council meeting, and had the third reading and it has passed. Mr. Ammons also mentioned that we should look for anywhere from fifteen to a twenty thousand dollar increase in our money from the County that they collect from the Rural Fire fee.

Miscellaneous

Administrator Alan Ammons also stated that the DHEC grant for the recycling program. Mr. Ammons reiterated from last month that we did receive the twenty five thousand dollar grant pending our acceptance and in doing so that money provided carts and it would actually be a blue cart subscription service, Administrator stated that the cost would be five dollars and sixty nine cents a month, and in turn we will do away with the recycling center. Mr. Ammons also said that we are going back to curb side because that us the going thing because of contamination. Mayor Ashley Brady stated that by the curb side being by subscription basis those individuals will be most likely to put the aluminum cans and the proper items without getting contaminated loads, unlike now at least half of the load is contaminated garbage. ***A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Emerson Hunt, and seconded by Councilman Ronald Atkinson to amend the current agreement with AWS to close the current single stream recycling facility and switch to a subscription service at \$5.69 per month.*** The motion carries.

Chief Cooper and the Mayor presented a presentation concerning the stormwater project. Mayor started with Pee Dee Circle to include a few more streets around the City to show pictures of the different areas and what they found in the pipes. Mayor Brady pointed out that what we have is a litter problem. Mayor also stated that they tried to start on the areas that they know we have problems and Mayor mentioned that they have started on South Main Street.

Mayor Ashley Brady mentioned that Park St., Blue St., and Victor St., Hurricane Matthew, Hurricane Florence it was up to the resident's door steps in those houses on those streets. Mayor Brady informed us also that along with the CTC grant we

replaced eight hundred feet of pipe, and catch basins were put in and haven't had any issues with them.

Mayor said that they started working on South Main Street and started working north. When the employees clear the manholes they are putting a piece of white paint on it. Mayor stated that white paint means it's clean.

Mayor Brady made mention of Bethlehem Street and the fact that we don't have a pipe problem but a littering problem. Mayor stated that a basketball, bicycle, and bottle that was about sixty years old, and also stated that's what they had to deal with while cleaning the pipes out. Councilman Baker stated that that's the road beside Josephine West.

Mayor stated that everyone wanted to know what are going to do about Catfish Creek. Mayor informed us that this beaver dam that we see is just west of Thomas Mobile Home Park used to be. Mayor said that two days before the storm they took there tack over and took the task of doing ourselves. He also stated that they took the bulldozer and track hoe and pushed and broke out the dam and the water just went to flowing. Mayor also informed that they went as far as the bridge by Raytex and had to pull out because of the storm coming.

The County was awarded a thirty thousand dollar grant from DNR for cleaning Catfish and that money was originally appropriated for beaver control. Mayor told us that he spoke with Tim Harper and Kent Williams and said we don't need to kill the beaver's but to clean it out. Mayor said thank goodness the County was able to talk to DNR and appropriate those funds for equipment rental. County Council passed it this morning and they agreed to use that thirty thousand dollars for equipment rental, and the Mayor said that our game plan is to work in

conjunction with the County to use those funds for equipment rental and rent bigger longer reaching track hoes, possibly starting next month. He also mentioned that we are going to try and put their equipment operator and our operator and get as much as we can cleaned up. Mayor then stated that we will get what we can until the money runs out.

Mayor stated that the City's cost for the storm cleanup is about ninety five hundred dollars and there is a meeting Thursday morning after the Council meeting concerning that.

Last meeting, the Mayor informed us that we talked about selling the trucks on govdeals.com and the trucks brought in about nineteen thousand five hundred dollars towards our second grapple fund truck, and then we will put up the old grapple per our motion to sell November first. Another item the Mayor spoke about getting permission to sell the bus, because every time it's used, it is always something gone bad such as the brakes, air conditioning, and tires. Mayor also stated that we don't need to be in a business transporting children. He said we could use that money for the grapple truck, and also if we have a sporting event where we need to transport children we'd be better off to charter a bus or charter someone else that has the appropriate license and take that liability off of the City of Marion. ***A motion was made by Councilman Ralph Atkinson, and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Emerson Hunt to sell the bus on govdeals.com.*** The motion carries.

Mayor noted that we have got a house on Saint John Court that did the appropriate asbestos cleanup on, and we have got a clean letter from DHEC that

will allow the demolition of this house and plans are to start it in the morning after the Council meeting.

8. CITY ATTORNEY'S LEGAL UPDATE

Attorney Brogdon didn't have anything at the time.

9. DISTRICT AND CITY UPDATE FROM COUNCIL AND MAYOR

Councilman Michael Baker: Councilman Baker had a question for Mr. Ammons about the Block grant, and Mr. Ammons confirmed.

Councilman Joseph Frazier: Had nothing at the time.

Councilman Ronald Atkinson: Councilman Ronald agreed with the Mayor with the pictures. He stated that those pictures and video are exactly what people need to see.

Councilman Ralph Atkinson: Had nothing at the time.

Councilwoman Tassie Lewis: Councilwoman Lewis wanted to say thank you to all our City employees. She also stated that they had their Community Police Awareness meeting with Chief Flowers, and she is looking forward to having another one in the near future.

Mayor Pro Tem Emerson Hunt: Mayor Pro Tem was very proud that everyone is safe and still praying for the people in the Bahamas. He also would like to give Mayor and City Council credit for looking into the future about trying to save our City from these floods.

Chief Tony Flowers: Spoke to Council last meeting about the body cameras and applying for a grant and he stated that they received about two thousand more dollars than they paid for the camera's and will be receiving the money in October.

10. EXECUTIVE SESSION

We don't have anything in Executive Session.

11. POSSIBLE ACTION ON EXECUTIVE SESSION ITEMS

12. ADJOURNMENT

With nothing further to discuss, ***A motion was made to adjourn by Councilman Ralph Atkinson, seconded by Councilman Ronald Atkinson.*** The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Ashley Brady

Ainsley Sanders, City Clerk

Taped: September 10, 2019